



Arlington Tree Committee

Date: Thursday, July 8, 2020

Time: 7:30pm

Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkf-utqz8rGtSmWPfDkvy2mqTirJhKNbXa>

Minutes

On the call: Mary Ellen, Eliza, Susan, Mara, Keith, Ed, Steve

1. Eliza announced Brian Turnbaugh has resigned from the Committee
2. *Review and Approve*
 - a. Prior Meeting Minutes :

3. *Design and Building Initiatives Impacting Trees*

- a. Mirak: ATC will speak with Mirak. Large opportunity to be a part of the build out and include trees. **Steve, Susan and Eliza** have volunteered to keep up with the project as it develops.
- b. Sunnyside Ave: tree hearing (**7.28.2020** for 3 of the Norway Maples). **Keith and Mara** will attend.
- c. Mass Ave & Lake St Projects – planting will take place after the construction
- d. AHS – planting plan: no new details
- e. Whittemore Park – No new news
- f. Wellington Park
- g. Lussiano - fencing is being put up, one unhealthy tree removed.
- h. New – 840 Mass Ave. private apartment building, with a lot of green space, taking down a lot of trees against building and along parking lot due to roots and building structure. A tenant reached out to ATC with concern about marked trees. Eliza coordinated a meeting with new building owner (Torrington Properties) and they expressed interest in planting new trees – yet building mgmt budget limits what they can do. **Can the Town/ATC help?** Off Berm planting program might be very applicable for this. **Susan will relook at the off berm documents** the ATC drafted several years ago. **Eliza will discuss with Tim.**

4. *DPW Tree Dept/Tree Warden Update* (Tim was absent but sent update via email to Mary Ellen)

- a. Summer tree watering - watering staff starting this week
- b. Tree hearing(s) - above
- c. Tree Bylaw activity;
- d. EAB treatment plans

- e. Gas Leaks – several bills in committee regarding gas leaks, several groups are involved. 3 gas companies provide gas across the Commonwealth. Columbia gas is one of them, and is exiting the state, Eversource is taking these assets. HEET (heetma.org) has a map of gas leaks throughout the Commonwealth, updated based on 2019 data. Mothers-Out-Front and Sustainable Arlington have started ‘canaries tree.org’ which provides a sign you can put near trees/areas where gas leaks are present.
- f. Tree Stakes and Gator Bags – ATC free to remove 2 year and older. Replace damaged bags (replacement bags outside DPW)
- g. Working with Tree inventory
 - i. Adopt-A-Tree – Town sent out notice, Facebook/Google Groups. 25 adopted trees as of today. **ATC needs to adhere yellow ribbons to trees**
 - ii. Viewing tree health/form photo, if available
 - iii. Tree planting sites
 - iv. Other

5. *Publicity/Community Outreach* - NOT Discussed

- a. What to do in place of town day?
- b. Grant Writing
- c. Write Acmi story with photo -- Community Canopy Program
- d. ATC Google Groups, Facebook and Instagram
- e. ATC website - need to consider upgrade
- f. Correspondence received

6. *New Business*

- a. Should we reach out to chamber of commerce to identify apartments that could use trees??
- b. Town Meeting ATC interest / involvement – not discussed
- c. By Law review -not discussed
- d. Planning Department Community Outreach – not discussed

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 12.